

FEB 16 2006

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Donohoe, Brendan M.  
Assignee: Cardica, Inc.  
Title: Method and Apparatus for Creating an Opening in the Wall of a Tubular Vessel  
Serial No.: 10/054,745 Filing Date: January 22, 2002  
Examiner: Vy Q. Bui Group Art Unit: 3731  
Docket No.: 057

February 16, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION****INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This communication is in response to the Office Action of December 1, 2005 ("Office Action").